



Use the web: [mass.gov/dpl/boards/nu](https://mass.gov/dpl/boards/nu)

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists Licensing is Important

**To establish the Licensee as a credible leader in the field of Dietetics and Nutrition.**

Non-accredited correspondence schools and other organizations have issued thousands of “degrees” and certificates which suggest that the recipient is a qualified expert in nutrition. These documents are promoted as though they are equivalent in meaning to established credentials-which they are not.

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists Licensing is Important

**To protect the public.**

It is unrealistic to expect people to check the credentials of every practitioner they encounter.

Licensing standards are set to prevent individuals who do not meet the standards from representing themselves as equivalent to those who do.

Licensing does not offer complete protection against all forms of nutrition practice conducted privately between individuals, but it can deter untrained individuals from widely advertising that they are experts.

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists Licensing is Important

**Licensure is the "*wave of the future*" in the field.**

Almost all states—46 as of Sept. 2003—now have laws to regulate nutritionists. Some of the laws make it illegal for unqualified persons to call themselves dietitians or nutritionists, while others define nutrition practice and who is eligible to practice.

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**To improve your marketability.**

If you have a choice, do you go to the brain surgeon with maximum credentials working at a highly recognizable hospital or the small community hospital with one surgeon who specializing in what ever comes through the door?

Consumers are beginning to recognize and respond to professional credentials. Be a leader!

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## **Job Retention**

Highly qualified professionals that are capable of good leadership, bringing in business, and enhance the companies reputation will be afforded the most protecting during times of staff reduction. Conversely, layoffs will start with unlicensed (unmotivated?) professionals.

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## **JCAHO & Pew**

To be recognized by the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, who specify that consultants in health care facilities must be licensed.

To be in compliance with Pew Commission recommendations that all health care professionals be licensed.

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists Licensing is Important

## **Qualify as a Provider.**

To qualify as a leading provider of nutrition services by many Managed Care Organizations and insurance companies.

MNT reimbursement.



# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists Licensing is Important

## **Promotes the Profession.**

Licensure increases the visibility and credibility of the profession.

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists Licensing is Important

**The message you send to the public.**

Leaders in a field should advocate for their profession to maintain the highest standards possible.

Those that have the credibility to be Licensed should be.....lead by example.

When a leader does not set an example people will question why?

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists LICENSURE

- Credentials
- Moral Character
- Examination
- Fee



# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists RENEWAL



- Credentials
- Moral Character
- Examination
- Fee

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists RENEWAL



## Continuing Education

- **Credentials**
- Moral Character
- Examination
- Fee

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists

## Continuing Education

### **Read the Regulation!**

([www.mass.gov/reg/boards/nu](http://www.mass.gov/reg/boards/nu))

- **30 hours/2 years**
- **Accredited Source**
  - **Example: CDR**
- **Relevant Topic**
  - **Example: Nutrition (not Computer Science)**

# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists

## RENEWAL

- **Pay taxes**
- **Avoid convictions**
- **Support children**
- **No out-of-state license problems**
- **Credentials**
- **Moral Character**
- **Examination**
- **Fee**

- a. Pursuant to MGL c. 62C, § 49A, to my best knowledge and belief, I have filed all **Massachusetts tax** returns and paid all Massachusetts taxes required by law. ( ) Yes ( ) No
- b. I have completed all **continuing education** as required by the Board. ( ) Yes ( ) No
- c. I have not, since my last renewal, had a **license** denied, surrendered, or **disciplined**, and I am not the subject of pending disciplinary action by any other licensing authority. ( ) Yes ( ) No
- d. I have not been **convicted** of, or admitted to, any criminal offense (other than a traffic violation) since my last renewal. ( ) Yes ( ) No
- e. Pursuant to MGL c. 119A §16, I do not owe any past-due **child support** that is the subject of a child support lien pursuant to section 6 of said chapter. ( ) Yes ( ) No



# Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists

## RENEWAL

- **Sign form**
- **Address change?**
  - **Also online**
- **Return stub ONLY**
- **Check/money order**
- **Use the envelope**
- **Credentials**
- **Moral Character**
- **Examination**
- **Fee**